

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XIII, Issue No. 352

THURSDAY DECEMBER 18, 2003

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I N S I D E

Around the CNMI

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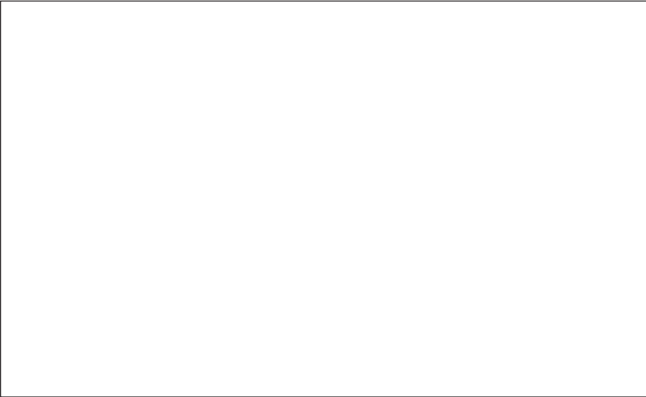
Island Snapshots

The Saipan Tribune accepts contributed pictures of birthdays, weddings, baptisms, and other community and family events for free publication. Material submitted should be original and not copyrighted, in digital or print format. Must include a caption containing complete details (a description of the event, identities of the persons in the picture, the date, and the place), the name of the contributor, and a contact number. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to edit the caption, the date of publication and the size of the picture. Contributors can e-mail their submissions to editor.tribune@gtepacific.net. To check if contributions are received, call 235-6397, 235-2440, or 235-8747.

cars


mcdo

WEATHER FORECAST




PICTURE TIME: 2:25 A.M., DECEMBER 17, 2003
Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.


A monsoon trough extends from 6N130E through a tropical disturbance near 8N145E and finally to near 5N160E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with the disturbance are found in the Mariana islands as well as between Yap and Chuuk or between 4N and 16N from 139E to 153E. Just east of the monsoon trough, a surface trough of low pressure continues to near the equator at 168E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are developing north and east of the trough or within 100 miles either side of a line from 9N160E to the equator at 173E, including Kosrae. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across portions of the Marshall islands, between 4N and 16N from 170E to 180.




SAIPAN AND TINIAN
Cloudy and breezy with scattered showers, some locally heavy, and a slight chance of thunderstorms.
Winds: East at 20-25 mph. Gusting in 35 mph in showers.
Temperature: Lows near 78. Highs near 86.



GUAM AND ROTA
Cloudy and breezy with scattered showers, some locally heavy, and a slight chance of thunderstorms.
Winds: East at 20-25 mph. Gusting in 35 mph in showers.
Temperature: Lows near 78. Highs near 86.




PALAU
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: Northeast at 10 kt.




POHNPEI
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: East at 10 kt.




YAP AND ULITHI
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: Northeast at 10 kt.






















KOSRAE
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: Southeast at 10 kt.

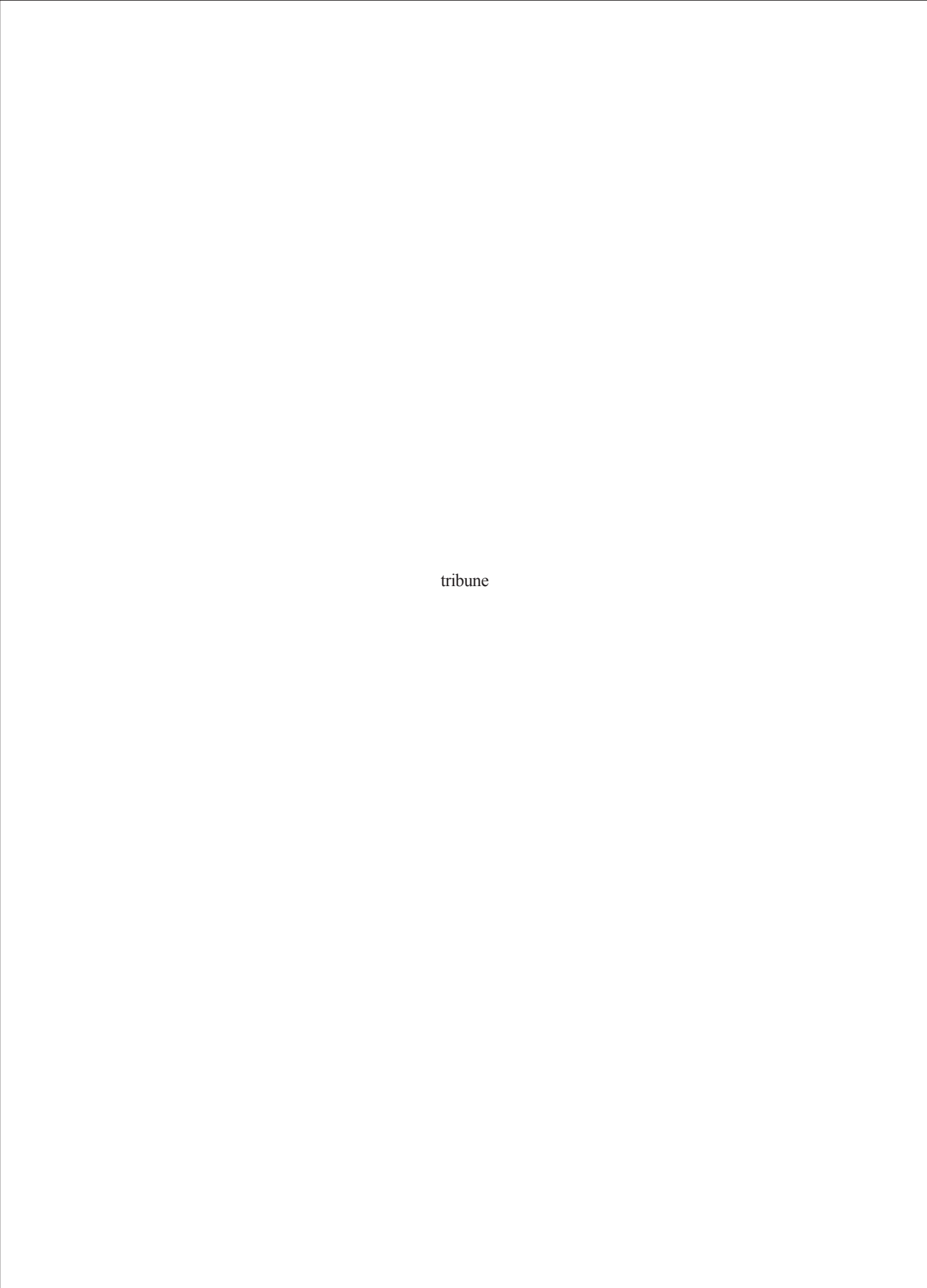


CHUUK
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers with a slight chance of thunderstorms.
Winds: Northeast at 10-15 kt.



MAJURO
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.
Winds: East at 10-15 kt.

CITY	FORECAST	HIGH	LOW
 Auckland	Cloudy	61F (16C)	49F (9C)
 Beijing	Sunny	44F (7C)	26F (-3C)
 Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	74F (23C)	61F (16C)
 Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	86F (30C)	72F (22C)
 London, England	Cloudy	56F (13C)	45F (7C)
 Los Angeles	Cloudy	69F (21C)	51F (11C)
 Manila	Cloudy	88F (31C)	71F (22C)
 Melbourne	Sunny	73F (23C)	54F (12C)
 Miami	Partly Cloudy	84F (29C)	75F (24C)
 New York, NY	Cloudy	52F (11C)	48F (9C)
 Osaka	Rain	54F (12C)	46F (8C)
 Paris	Cloudy	53F (12C)	41F (5C)
 Pusan	Rain	58F (14C)	43F (6C)
 Rome	Partly Cloudy	55F (13C)	39F (4C)
 Salem, Oregon	Rain	54F (12C)	38F (3C)
 San Francisco	Sunny	64F (18C)	47F (5C)
 Seoul	Rain	52F (11C)	45F (7C)
 Tokyo	Rain	55F (13C)	49F (9C)
 Washington, DC	Cloudy	60F (16C)	48F (9C)



tribune

Opinion

Saipan Tribune

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Los Angeles Times

ON MY MIND. . .

By RUTH L. TIGHE

Letters to the Editor

Saipan Tribune welcomes contributions. All letters intended for publication must include the writer's name, address and, if possible, fax or telephone number. Letters are edited for space, clarity and fairness.

Our World At War

Flag of Palau flying high in the sky

KOROR, Palau (PDN, PIR)—The flag of the Republic of Palau, a full moon against a blue sky, will fly higher than ever before. The flag is displayed on Palau Micronesia Air's 737-300, which made its inaugural flight Friday night to Darwin, Australia.

"We're proud to have our own airline with our island's name. In a way, it kind of sets us apart from other islands in that we're brave enough to take part in this," said Valentina Edesomel, a resident of Ngerchemai in Koror.

Cecelia Yamada, a 53-year-old resident of Medalaai in Koror and many other Palauans echoed Edesomel's sentiments.

But while they were proud of the inaugural flight and the possibilities ahead, some residents said they had some concerns about the fledgling airline's ability to compete with other airlines in an arena where other airlines have failed.

Yamada said it will be difficult for Palau Micronesia Air to compete with Continental Airlines, which has flown routes between

Palau, Guam and other islands in Micronesia for decades.

"It's going to be hard to catch up with Continental because they have more money and they're bigger," Yamada said.

"Right when Palau Air announced cheaper flights to the Philippines for \$199, Continental announced a \$189 air fare to the Philippines."

Alan Seid, part owner and chief executive officer of the fledgling Palau Micronesia Air, said he's not trying to compete with Continental.

"They've got a deeper pocket so it's harder to compete with them. I don't think we ever wanted to come in and try to outdo Continental. We just want to get our little niche in the market," Seid said.

He added that feasibility studies have shown that the Asia-Pacific market can absorb a small airline.

"And of course, we do hope the local people—the island people—will support us and keep us alive for years to come," Seid said.

One of the concerns that

popped up during interviews with various Palauan residents yesterday was Air Nauru's failure in the region.

But Seid said he hears the comparisons made between Palau Micronesia Air and Air Nauru, but no comparison can be made.

The PMA chief executive officer said the biggest difference between the two airlines is the ownership and the expertise behind the ventures.

"PMA is not a national airline. We don't have a government trying to run an airline. We

have professionals," he said.

Seid pointed to other successful airlines based in Pacific islands: "Tahiti Nui is a great success. Air Asia, which uses the same type of aircraft, is a huge success."

But Seid also acknowledged the risk involved in the airline industry.

"We've done our homework. We had our feasibility studies done and we've taken the risk and made the investments," Seid said. "At this point, there's only one way to find out what happens. We just need to do it."

Raffles to manage new Tahiti hotel

PAPEETE, Tahiti (Tahitipresse, PIR)—Raffles International announced Monday the signing of a management agreement for the 65-villa luxury resort on French Polynesia's island of Tahaa, the group's first

property in the South Pacific.

Raffles Taimana Resort Tahaa, reportedly still a project that has not yet begun construction, will offer 65 one-bedroom and two-bedroom villas, three food and beverage facilities, a meeting room, a library, a

RafflesAmrita Spa, tennis court and a diving center, according to a Raffles press release. More than 80 percent of the resort will be built over water, providing views of the nearby islands of Raiatea and Bora Bora.



Workshop on for young girls

The House of Manhoben at Chalan Kanoa is holding a Workshop called "Young Female Empowerment" for girls in the CNMI ages 12 to 18 years old.

Topics include building self-esteem and women in leadership, including many fun cooperative activities that will be offered.

The Workshop will be at the Pacific Islands Club on Sept. 25, from 8:30am to 2:30pm.

Registration for the workshop is concurrent with the registration for Girls Volleyball, Girls Basketball and Girls Canoeing/Paddling at the House of Manhoben Center, from 2:30pm to 5:30pm.

"Let's give our young girls a chance. The above events are for girls only," a House of Manhoben statement said.

Parents are encouraged to register their daughters. Space is limited, therefore, it will be on a first come-first serve basis.

Families with Disabilities officers meeting set

The CNMI Association of Families with Disabilities meeting will be held on Aug. 31, 2004, 6pm, at Skyway Restaurant, Airport Road. Should you have any questions call Lisa A. Aldan at 483-0395 or Vicky Tudela at 288-7676 for further information.

All parents and community members are welcomed to attend this meeting.

Chacha resets its PTSA meeting

The administration of Chacha Oceanview Junior High School would like to inform all parents, guardians, students and the community that the scheduled PTSA meeting for Aug. 26, 2004 was

cancelled and is rescheduled for next week Thursday, Sept. 2, 2004. If you have any questions or concerns call 664-4100, 664-4105 or 664-4106. Thank you very much for your understanding and cooperation.

Youth Learning Center registration to start

The Garapan Youth Learning Center announces its open-house/registration beginning Aug. 30, 2004 to Sept. 3, from 9am to 4:30pm. Interested parents are encouraged to visit the center. The center provides services on tutoring in general subjects, computer lab, sports, guidance and counseling and other related educational activities. Services are free of charge and available to youth from grade levels 1st through 12th. For more information contact 664-7883.

E-form for SHEFA scholarship now available

Applications for Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance are now available online and can be downloaded by accessing its website: www.saipanshefa.com.

This option is especially helpful for those students who are currently abroad, and qualified to avail of this assistance.

The scholarship, which is under the Municipality of Saipan, Office of the Mayor, aims to provide supplementary financial assistance pursuant to Saipan Local Law 13-21, to qualified residents of Saipan (inclusive of the Northern Islands) in pursuing postsecondary education on Saipan or abroad.

Under the rules, ongoing applicants need to submit official sealed transcript, valid Saipan municipal ID No., and official class registration. New

applicants are asked to submit acceptance letter into a higher education institution, proof of one year residency on Saipan, most recent official sealed transcript, and valid Saipan ID. No.

Completed application and supporting documents must be submitted to SHEFA at the Mayor's Office.

For inquiries call 234-6208/234-6280 or email: jbtmayor@vzppacific.net.

Motheread/Fatheread schedule out

The CNMI Motheread/Fatheread® schedule for its upcoming classes is as follows:

- 6pm Mondays at Garapan Youth Learning Center
- 6pm Tuesdays at Tanapag Head Start Center
- 6pm Wednesdays at San Roque Head Start Center
- 6pm Thursdays at Kagman II Head Start Center
- 10am Saturdays starting today, Aug. 28 at Kagman III Head Start Center

The classes run for eight weeks and meet one time a week. They are free. They are open to anyone wanting to learn how to read effectively with children as well as improve their own reading skills.

For more information contact the Motheread/Fatheread coordinator at 235-4785 or 235-7323.

House of Manhoben open for registration

The House of Manhoben is open for registration in the following sports: Girls' Volleyball, Girls' Basketball and Girls' Canoeing, for ages 14-17 years old.

Registration dates and time are from Monday to Friday, 2:30pm-5:30pm, at the House of Manhoben Center in Chalan Kanoa. Registration will end on Aug. 31.

Parents are encouraged to come and register their children. Space is limited; registration will be on a "first come- first served bases."

GUIDELINES FOR FLOOD CLEANUP

Flooding can cause the disruption of water purification and sewage disposal systems, overflowing of toxic waste sites, and dislodgement of chemicals previously stored aboveground. Although most floods do not cause serious outbreaks of infectious disease or chemical poisonings, they can cause sickness in workers and others who come in contact with contaminated floodwater. In addition, flooded areas may contain electrical or fire hazards connected with downed power lines.

Floodwater

Floodwater often contains infectious organisms, including intestinal bacteria such as E. coli, Salmonella, and Shigella; Hepatitis A virus; and agents of typhoid, paratyphoid and tetanus. The signs and symptoms experienced by the victims of waterborne microorganisms are similar, even though they are caused by different pathogens. These symptoms include nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal cramps, muscle aches, and fever. Most cases of sickness associated with flood conditions are brought about by ingesting contaminated food or water. Tetanus, however, can be acquired from contaminated soil or water entering broken areas of the skin, such as cuts, abrasions, or puncture spasms, known as lockjaw. The symptoms may appear weeks after exposure and may begin as a headache, but later develop into difficulty swallowing or opening the jaw.

Floodwaters also may be contaminated by agricultural or industrial chemicals or by hazardous agents present at flooded hazardous waste sites. Flood cleanup crew members who must work near flooded industrial sites also may be exposed to chemically contaminated floodwater. Although different chemicals cause different health effects, the signs and symptoms most frequently associated with chemical poisoning are headaches, skin rashes, dizziness, nausea, excitability, weakness, and fatigue.

Pools of standing or stagnant water become breeding grounds for mosquitoes, increasing the risk of encephalitis, West Nile Virus or other mosquito-borne diseases. The presence of wild animals in populated areas increases the risk of diseases caused by animal bites (e.g., rabies) as well as diseases carried by fleas and ticks.

Protect yourself

To avoid waterborne disease, it is important to wash your hands with soap and clean, running water. People should assume that any water in flooded or surrounding areas is not safe unless the local or state authorities have specifically declared it to be safe. If no safe water supply is available for washing, use bottled water, water that has been boiled for at least 10 minutes or chemically disinfected water. (To disinfect water, use 5 drops of liquid household bleach to each gallon of water and let sit for at least 30 minutes for disinfection to be completed.) Water storage containers should be rinsed periodically with a household bleach solution. If water is

suspected of being contaminated with hazardous chemicals, cleanup workers may need to wear special chemical protective outer clothing and goggles. Before entering a contaminated area that has been flooded, you should put on plastic or rubber gloves, boots, and other protective clothing needed to avoid contact with floodwater.

Decrease the risk of mosquito and other insect bites by wearing long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and by using insect repellants. Wash your hands with soap and water that has been boiled or disinfected before preparing or eating foods, after using the bathroom, after participating in flood cleanup activities, and after handling articles contaminated by flood waters. In addition, children should not be allowed to play in flood waters or with toys that have been in contact with flood waters. Toys should be disinfected.

What to do if symptoms develop

If you have any of the signs or symptoms listed above, appropriate first-aid treatment and medical advice should be sought. If the skin is broken, particularly with a puncture wound or a wound in contact with potentially contaminated material, a tetanus vaccination may be needed if it has been five years or more since your last tetanus shot.

Tips to remember

- Before working in flooded areas, be sure your tetanus shot is current (given within the last 10 years). Wounds that are associated with a flood should be evaluated for risk; a physician may recommend a tetanus immunization.
- Consider all water unsafe until local authorities announce that the public water supply is safe.
- Do not use contaminated water to wash and prepare food, brush your teeth, wash dishes, or make ice.
- Keep an adequate supply of safe water available for washing and potable water for drinking.
- Be alert for chemically contaminated floodwater at industrial sites.
- Use extreme caution with potential chemical and electric hazards, which have great potential for fires and explosions. Floods have the strength to move and/or bury hazardous waste and chemical containers far from their normal storage places, creating a risk for those who come into contact with them. Any chemical hazards, such as propane tank, should be handled by the fire department or police.
- If the safety of a food or beverage is questionable, throw it out.
- Seek immediate medical care for all animal bites.

For further inquiries about health and safety in association with flooded areas, you may contact an OSHA representative at 322-8615, and ask for Jim Wulff or Ray Deleon Guerrero.

Good Housekeeping

Cooking with Chef Singh



Local Pumpkin Cheesecake

Recipe for 8 servings

- 1-1/2 cups gingersnap crumbs or Graham crackers
- 1/2 cup finely chopped pecans or your choice of nuts
- 1/3 cup butter, melted
- 24 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup and 2 tablespoon sugar white sugar
- 1-1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 4 large eggs
- 1-1/2 cups pumpkin purée (freshly cooked)
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon powder
- 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg

Methods: Preheat oven to 350°F. Combine gingersnap crumbs or Graham crackers, pecans and butter. Press onto bottom and 1-1/2 inches up sides of a 9-inch spring form pan. Bake for 10 minutes in 350°F oven. Remove and let cool.

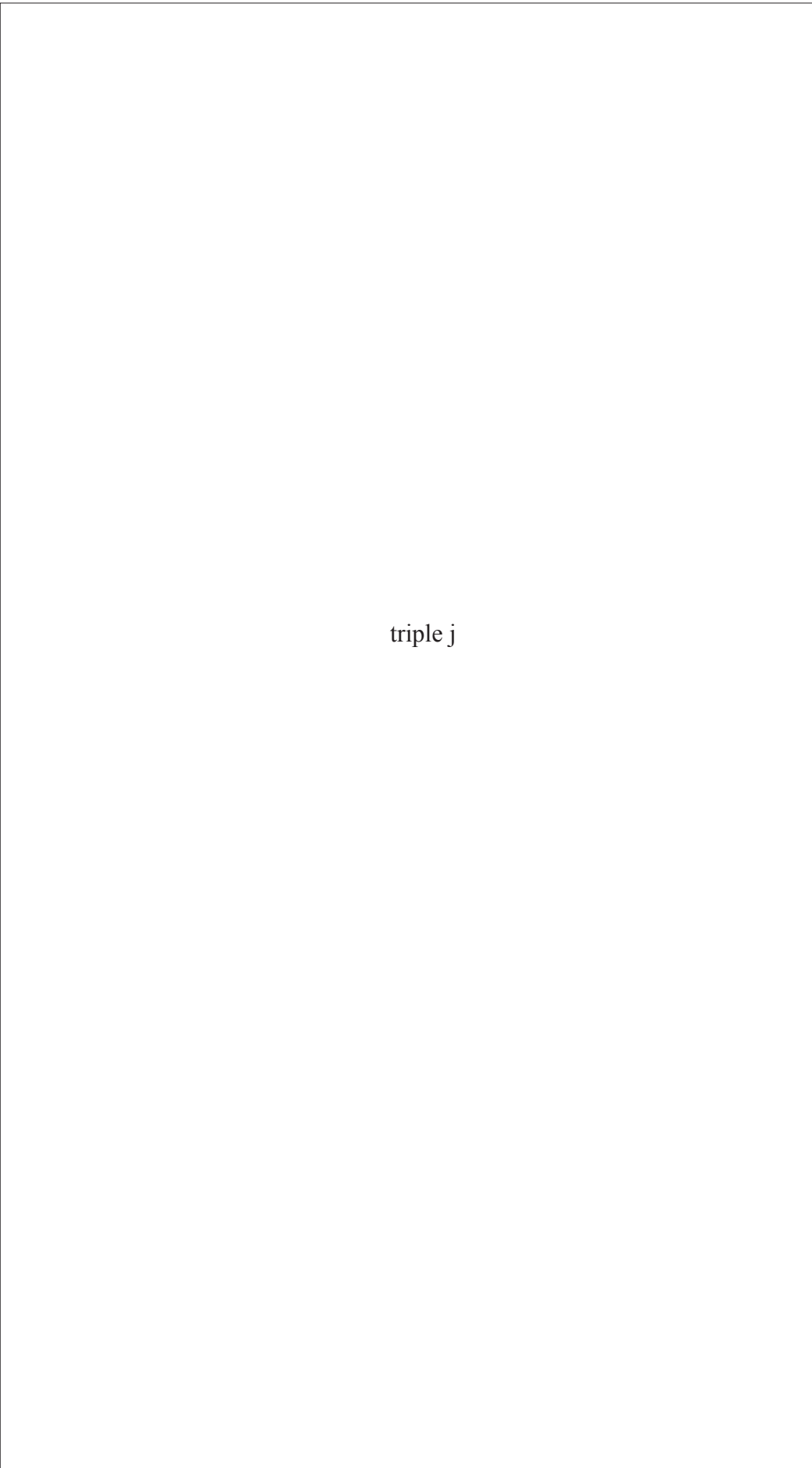
Combine cream cheese, 2/3 cup sugar and vanilla, mixing at medium speed on electric mixer until well blended. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Remove 1 cup batter from mixture and chill for 8 hours. Add remaining sugar, pumpkin and spices to remaining batter; mix well.

Alternately layer pumpkin and cream cheese batter over the crust. Cut through layers of batter with a knife several times to achieve marble effect.

Bake at 350°F for 1 hour and 15 minutes. Loosen cake from rim of pan; cool before removing rim of pan. Chill before serving.

Chef’s cooking tips: How to prevent mold on cheese? Wrap it in a cloth dampened with saltwater before refrigerating.

The Good Life



United States



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2004 **27**

28 SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2004



stevedore

hermans
+red

United States

AP poll: Bush holds slight lead on Kerry

By RON FOURNIER
AP POLITICAL WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Bush opens the fall campaign with a slight lead over Democratic Sen. John Kerry, an Associated Press poll shows, as voters express growing confidence in the direction of the country and the performance of the incumbent.

Seven weeks before Election Day, the Republican is considered significantly more decisive, strong and likable than Kerry, and he has strengthened his position on virtually every issue important to voters, from the war in Iraq and creating jobs—two sources of criticism—to matters of national security and values.

Bill Clinton returns home after surgery

CHAPPAQUA, N.Y. (AP)—Former President Bill Clinton left the hospital and returned home Friday, four days after undergoing heart bypass surgery, his office said.

Clinton arrived early Friday evening at his home in the New York suburb of Chappaqua, according to his spokesman, Jim Kennedy.

"The President is in good spirits and has taken short walks in the hospital hallway and in his home today," Kennedy said in a prepared statement.

The 58-year-old Democrat was taken off his respirator and placed in an intensive care unit on Monday. On Wednesday, he was moved back to his hospital room, where he walked with assistance, sat in his bed and sat up in his chair.

Clinton had planned to campaign for John Kerry, the Democratic nominee for president, but the recovery from surgery will take him off the stump for now, with just eight weeks left until the election. It was not immediately clear how soon he could return to the campaign trail.

In recent days, Clinton has been inundated with thousands of well-wishes and flowers, his foundation has said.

"We appreciate more than words can say all the good wishes and messages of concern that we received during this difficult time in our lives," Clinton, his wife, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, and their daughter Chelsea said Friday in a statement relayed through the family's spokesman.

"We feel blessed to have such support, and it will continue to sustain us throughout the months of recuperation that remain ahead," they said.

Since the Democratic National Convention ended in late July, the president has erased any gains Kerry had achieved while reshaping the political landscape in his favor: Nearly two-thirds of voters think protecting the country is more important than creating jobs, and Bush is favored over Kerry by a whopping 23 percentage points on who would keep the United States safe.

"If we don't take care of the terrorists, we certainly won't have to worry about the economy," said Janet Cross, 57, of Portsmouth, Ohio, who switched from Democrat to Republican for the last election.

Among those most likely to vote, the Republican ticket of Bush and Vice President

Dick Cheney holds a lead of 51 percent to 46 percent over Kerry and Sen. John Edwards, with independent Ralph Nader receiving 1 percent.

The AP-Ipsos-Public Affairs poll showed minorities, urban residents and other Democratic voters unified behind Kerry, as would be expected in the fall. But he lost ground in virtually every other demographic group: lower educated voters, suburbanites, rural voters, the middle class, married couples and baby boomers.

Many voters seemed to be retreating to Bush's camp after flirting with the Democrat, whose nominating convention was heavily focused on his Vietnam War record. For example, those in the GOP-leaning South

narrowly favored Kerry in early August but now support Bush 58 percent to 38 percent. Married men slightly favored Bush last month but now back the president 2-to-1.

Among all registered voters, Bush-Cheney led the Democratic ticket 51 percent to 43 percent, a modest bounce in support since early August, when Kerry-Edwards led 48-45 percent.

The reversal is the result of a month of GOP-inspired criticism of Kerry's war record combined with a Republican National Convention scripted to undercut the Democrat's credibility and cast Bush as a steady commander in chief, said strategists in both campaigns.

"There's something I don't

like about Kerry—too wishy-washy," said Don Dooley, a 54-year-old conservative Democrat from Grand Prairie, Texas, who is leaning toward Bush. "George is not the ideal kind of person, but at least he's more predictable than Kerry."

The question now is whether Bush's gains are as temporary as they were for Kerry—or the first sign of a fundamental shift in the race.

"I don't know if we know that yet," said Bush strategist Matthew Dowd, "but I think there's beginning to be some permanence to it." He said the president could settle into a lead of 3 or 4 percentage points, which could only be upset by a major event, such as the presidential debates.

Democrats predicted the race will be even in the next week or two, especially in the dozen or so states where the election will be decided.

"They had a convention and got a bounce just like we had a convention and got a bounce," said Kerry pollster Mark Mellman. He said Bush's gains were already eroding, pointing to polls taken during and after the convention that gave the president a double-digit lead.

For the first time since Kerry wrapped up the nomination, the AP-Ipsos poll suggests that a majority of voters approve of the president's job performance—52 percent. The lifts him out of the danger zone for incumbents.



The twin towers of the World Trade Center burn behind New York's Empire State Building in this Sept. 11, 2001 file photo.

Kin to honor 9/11 victims on anniversary

NEW YORK (AP)—Last year, children's voices echoed across ground zero. This year, it is the bereaved parents and grandparents of World Trade Center victims who will read aloud the names of those lost on Sept. 11, 2001.

Three years to the minute that terrorists flew the first plane into the twin towers, a moment of silence will be held at 8:46 a.m. Saturday to begin the ceremony at ground zero. Then, in what has become an anniversary tradition, the names of the 2,749 trade center victims will be recited, with pauses for three more moments of silence—at 9:03, 9:59 and 10:29 a.m.—to mark when the second plane struck

and each tower collapsed. The day of remembrance will end with twin beams of light soaring into the night sky.

At the Pentagon, officials will lay a wreath and observe a moment of silence. And in Pennsylvania, bells will toll across the state at the minute the fourth plane went down.

Nationwide, communities will observe Sept. 11 in their own ways, with services at firehouses, memorial dedications, the tolling of bells, and flag ceremonies. In Springfield, Mo., a garden will be dedicated to 9/11 victims, and in New Mexico, residents plan to gather at an Albuquerque church where two trade

center beams are on display.

After last year's heartbreaking reading by children who lost loved ones, this year's list of the dead will be read at ground zero by parents and grandparents of victims. Some will also read poems or passages. Mayor Michael Bloomberg, his predecessor Rudolph Giuliani, New York Gov. George Pataki and New Jersey Gov. Jim McGreevey are also scheduled to participate.

Nancy Brandemarti, who has never attended the ground zero remembrance, will read a poem for her son, Nicky Brandemarti, a financial analyst who worked in the south tower. He would have turned 25 this month.

Few apply for Medicare drug coverage

WASHINGTON (AP)—Far from the expected deluge, relatively few patients with cancer and other serious illnesses have applied for generous early Medicare prescription drug coverage.

The Bush administration was planning a lottery to determine who would get the 50,000 slots included in last year's Medicare prescription drug law. Instead, just 6,364 people have applied for the head start on drug insurance for costly cancer medicines taken orally and self-injectable drugs for multiple sclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis and other diseases.

The Medicare Web site now advises: "There are still many enrollment slots available!"

Patient advocates and physicians blame the low enrollment on several problems: The government scared off some people by using the term lottery and hasn't publicized the program enough. In addition, it came up with an intimidating application for people with debilitating, life-threatening illnesses.

Complaints about complexity

also have been raised regarding the Medicare discount drug card program, where enrollment also has fallen short of expectations.

The experience so far is a cautionary tale for the new full-blown Medicare prescription drug benefit scheduled to begin in 2006. Advocates, health-care analysts and even government officials expect that will be even harder to sort out.

"Maybe all of us were overly optimistic about how eager the consumer would be to get into the program," said Nancy Davenport-Ennis, chief executive of the not-for-profit Patient Advocate Foundation, which says it has helped obtain early coverage for 324 people.

The administration had expected tens of thousands of people like 81-year-old Helen Curtis to step forward when it unveiled the new program in June. While many cancer drugs administered in doctors' offices already are covered under Medicare, costly newer oral medicines and most drugs for other illnesses are not.

Hurricane prompts Florida Keys evacuation

KEY WEST, Fla. (AP)—In an all-too-familiar drill, Floridians got out of town or boarded up their windows and stocked up on canned food Friday as Hurricane Ivan threatened the state with its third thrashing in a month.

Business owners in the Florida Keys faced another bad weekend as tourists and residents fleeing the storm crowded the lone highway that leads to the mainland.

Around the state, meanwhile, more than three-quarters of a million victims of last week-end's Hurricane Frances were still without electricity in the almost 90-degree heat and high humidity, and thousands had to cope with sewage backups in Palm Beach County.

Ivan is expected to arrive in the Keys on Monday, exactly a month after Hurricane Charley ripped across the state from the west. Fatigued residents covered windows with shutters and plywood.

"First it was Charley, then Frances, and it's like, 'Oh, please leave us alone. No more storms,'" Ruth Naset said as she closed her family's business on Duval Street, Key West's main drag.

Together, Charley and Frances killed at least 50 people in Florida and caused up to \$20 billion in damage, making this season the state's worst since 1992. Florida has not been hit by three hurricanes in a single season since 1964.

Across the Globe

Ivan lashes Jamaica, death toll hits 37

By STEVENSON JACOBS
AP WRITER

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)—Waves two-stories high crashed on Jamaica's eastern shore Friday, flooding homes and washing away roads as Hurricane Ivan's ferocious winds and pounding rains began to lash the island and threatened a direct hit on its densely populated capital. The death toll elsewhere in the Caribbean rose to 37.

Jamaican Prime Minister P.J. Patterson declared a public emergency and pleaded with the half million people considered in danger—about one in five islanders—to get to shelters. Many residents, however, refused to leave, fearing their homes would be robbed if abandoned.

"I'm not saying I'm not afraid for my life but we've got to stay here and protect our things," said Lorna Brown, 49, pointing to a stove, television, cooking utensils and large bed crowded into a one-room concrete home on the beach at Montego Bay.

Cuba declared a hurricane watch across the entire island Friday after its leader, Fidel Castro, went on national television warning residents to brace themselves. "Whatever the hurricane does, we will all work together" to rebuild, he said.

In South Florida, long lines reappeared at gas stations and shoppers



A Jamaican man jumps as he crosses a street flooded by the first rains of Hurricane Ivan, which is approaching Kingston, Jamaica, Friday, Sept. 10, 2004.

AP

swarmed home building stores and supermarkets. Forecasters said Ivan could tear through the Keys as early as Monday though there was still a chance the storm would instead move out into the Gulf of Mexico.

Farther south, in areas already struck by Ivan, authorities discovered more bodies along Venezuela's flooded coast and in devastated Grenada, where the

U.S. State Department was arranging for the evacuations of all Americans who wish to leave the island.

"When dogs interfere with garbage bags and strew the contents all over the place—that's what Grenada looks like," Trinidadian leader Patrick Manning said after visiting the island.

In Jamaica, awed onlookers stood transfixed on the seaside Palisades

Highway near Kingston's airport as 23-foot waves crashed to shore, thrusting rocks and dead tree branches more than 100 feet into the road.

"I've lived here all my life and I've never seen anything like this," said businessman Chester Pinnock, huddled under an umbrella in the drenching rain, which started here Friday morning.

"This is going to be disastrous, we

could have hundreds dead. Hurricane Gilbert was a puppy compared to this," he said. Gilbert killed dozens of Jamaicans and devastated the island when it struck as a Category 3 storm in 1988.

Ivan, a Category 4 hurricane—out of a top scale of 5—packed winds of 145 mph and could strengthen before fully striking the 145-mile-long island late Friday or early Saturday, meteorologists said. They warned of "life-threatening" flash floods and mudslides.

"What we're experiencing now is only the beginning," Jamaica's prime minister said in an address to the nation. "Residents living near coastal areas must evacuate before it's too late. ... I cannot stress too strongly that Ivan is a dangerous hurricane."

But only about 1,200 people had moved into shelters around Kingston by Friday afternoon, said emergency management director Barbara Carby.

Only 3,800 people had fled low-lying areas of Montego Bay, a resort town of 35,000 where many tourists were stranded, disaster agency official Faye Headley said. She said 350 were in shelters Friday afternoon.

In town, the Barnett River overflowed its banks, putting some businesses on Bouge Street four feet under water and, farther inland, flooding roads and farmlands. Drenching rain washed away the main northern coastal road, the A1, a couple of miles outside Montego Bay.

Philippines calls for regional intel sharing

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippines on Friday urged Southeast Asian countries to step up intelligence and information sharing, saying a deadly bombing in Indonesia shows the terrorist threat continues.

"We may have continued to score big against terrorists, but the attack at the Australian Embassy in Indonesia's capital clearly indicates that the challenge is indeed far from over," presidential spokesman Ignacio Bunye said in a statement.

"There is need to further strengthen intelligence and information-sharing across our regional neighborhood," he said.

Indonesian authorities have vowed to hunt down suspected Muslim militants behind Thursday's blast, which killed nine people and wounded 173.

In a statement posted on an Islamic Web site, the al-Qaida-linked Southeast Asian terror group Jemaah Islamiyah purportedly claimed responsibility, saying it

was punishing Australia for supporting the war in Iraq.

Philippine troops and police went on full alert after the blast amid fears of terrorism linked to the anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks in the United States.

Lt. Gen. Alberto Braganza, commander of military troops in metropolitan Manila, said soldiers have augmented police guarding eight embassies—including the United States, Canadian, Japanese and European Union missions—as well as the homes of three ambassadors who requested added security. The Australian Embassy is being guarded by a police security task force.

In a statement, Australian Ambassador Ruth Pearce said security measures and procedures were further strengthened at the embassy following the blast in Jakarta with security personnel at the building housing the mission "exercising extra vigilance." She did not elaborate.

US troops lay siege to Iraqi city

By MARIAM FAM
AP WRITER

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP)—U.S. troops handed over medical supplies to Iraqi relief workers Friday amid a siege of a northeastern ethnic Turkish city where Iraqi and American forces are trying to root out hundreds of militants.

Despite criticism from Turkey and Shiite leaders, U.S. commanders insisted they will maintain their blockade of Tal Afar for as long as it takes to subdue what they said were foreign fighters holed up there. The campaign was part of a recently launched American effort to restore government authority to lawless areas of the country—either through negotiation or by force.

"We are going to apply the necessary pressure to make sure that we are able to root out the enemy," said Lt. Col. Paul Hastings, spokesman for the Army's Task Force Olympia. "How long

it takes is really dependent on them."

But the siege of Tal Afar, which the Americans describe as a hub for militants smuggling fighters and arms from Syria, was criticized from within and outside Iraq.

A leading Shiite Muslim cleric, Abdel-Aziz al-Hakim, said the Americans' use of heavy force in the city caused "catastrophes" that could have been avoided if Iraqis were in charge of security. The Americans have said they were fighting "a large terrorist organization."

"Since the first day after (Saddam Hussein's) regime collapsed, Tal Afar had terrorist groups, and this is not new," al-Hakim told The Associated Press on Friday. "The new thing is that the military operations are huge."

Al-Hakim leads the biggest Shiite political party in Iraq and is close to Iraq's leading Shiite cleric, Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani.

Turkey also said the United States should end its military operations in Tal Afar quickly, saying the attacks have caused casualties among the mostly ethnic Turks living there.

Turkey has asked U.S. officials "not to harm the civilian population and avoid using excessive and non-selective force," Foreign Ministry spokesman Namik Tan said, according to the semiofficial Anatolia news agency.

In Baghdad's sprawling Sadr City slum, meanwhile, fighting resumed between U.S. forces and militants loyal to radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, wounding seven Iraqis, hospital officials said.

Al-Sadr's al-Mahdi Army fighters fired rocket-propelled grenades and bullets at U.S. patrols, which immediately returned fire, said Capt. Brian O'Malley of the 1st Brigade Combat Team. There were no American casualties, he said.

RP twins should be walking by X'mas

NEW YORK (AP)—Carl and Clarence Aguirre, the 2-year-old twins from the Philippines who were joined at the head until five weeks ago, should be walking by December's Christmas holiday, their pediatrician says.

"That's the promise I made to their mother, and it's looking good," Dr. Robert Marion said Thursday. "It could be Halloween (end of October), the way things are going."

Marion visited with the boys as they returned to the Children's Hospital at Montefiore Medical Center in

the Bronx for a checkup. They were separated there Aug. 4, but were later moved to Blythedale Children's Hospital in Valhalla for physical therapy and other care designed to catch them up to normal development.

Marion said the boys have shown no neurological impairments from the operation and vital signs are fine.

Their mother, Arlene Aguirre, who brought them to New York from the Philippines a year ago, said the boys were "much better now because they're very active."

Putin OKs probe of deadly school siege

MOSCOW (AP)—President Vladimir Putin agreed Friday to a parliamentary investigation of the bloody school hostage siege in southern Russia, less than a week after he reportedly dismissed the idea by saying it might turn into "a political show."

The move by Putin seeks to deflect criticism after he had earlier ruled out a public probe of the standoff in Beslan, which the government has blamed on Chechen warlord Shamil Basayev.

Russian officials have also repeatedly have cast the military campaign

in Chechnya as part of a war against international terrorism.

U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said Friday that it was too soon to say whether al-Qaida played any role in the school attack, but he said there was an "absolutely" a connection between rebels in Chechnya and the terror network.

"I mean, they've been trained in the same training camps in Afghanistan," he said at the National Press Club in Washington. "So there's no question but that there's a linkage between the Chechen

terrorists and al-Qaida. But I can't say that about this event because the investigation's just in its early stages."

In a meeting shown prominently on state-run television, the lawmaker who heads Russia's upper house of parliament, Sergei Mironov, told Putin the Federation Council would aim to form an investigative commission.

Putin agreed, telling Mironov in the Kremlin meeting that "we are thoroughly interested in receiving a complete, objective picture of the tragic events connected with the seizure of the hostages."

Life & Style

Herrera's collection casual and elegant...

By SAMANTHA CRITCHELL
AP FASHION EDITOR

Carolina Herrera makes it look so easy to create an outfit that's both casual and elegant: She'll pair a retro-print blouse and a sophisticated broadtail skirt, or add semiprecious stone embroidery to an otherwise simple tank-strap dress.

That blend of business and pleasure sums up the overall feel of Herrera's spring 2005 preview, shown Thursday at the tents in Bryant Park on Day Two of New York Fashion Week.

Cynthia Steffe's collection was also easy and breezy, offering a more Bohemian mix to an audience that included retailers, the fashion press and front-row guests Katie Couric and Deborah Norville. Other designers who previewed their collections included Michael Vollbracht for Bill Blass and maternity designer Liz Lange.

Herrera took inspiration from 1940s-era textiles and interior design. Some prints featured tile patterns and others looked

like mosaics in colors such as espresso brown, ivory, green, bright red and tangerine.

"It was classic Carolina Herrera—fitted tops and fuller skirts," Glamour editor in chief Cindi Leive told The Associated Press. "What makes it new is the experiments in patterns, mirror plates and ruching."

This collection had a slightly more deconstructed look than Herrera usually offers, with frayed seams and rough edges, but it was still ladylike.

"Her clothes are for the cool girl, but not the bad girl," Leive said. "You can see why young Hollywood stars who like a classic look—Renee Zellweger or Reese Witherspoon—wear her things."

The three-shades-of-white gown with metal beading and floating panels of fabric that Herrera sent down the runway as her finale piece was particularly stunning.

Steffe described her spring line as "Morocco in the '70s ... an heiress traveling in the desert." Jewels and embroidery

dressed up loose chiffon harem dresses, and a shrunken peplum jacket in a sunflower-poppo print added a tailored touch to a crochet top and linen shorts.

A metallic brocade cropped jacket and matching skirt in light green with a loose tangerine camisole certainly could take a woman from day to night.

Steffe's most enthusiastic fan was her toddler-age daughter, Ava, who sat in the front row wearing a pint-size dress in a confetti tweed fabric also seen on the models. She jumped onto the runway at the end of the show and gave her mother a standing ovation.

As befitting their collections, both Herrera and Steffe's models wore loose, flowing hair and minimal makeup.

Meanwhile, Vollbracht took a more conservative approach, displaying an understanding of typical Bill Blass customers: ladies who lunch.

This marked his third appearance at Fashion Week as the head designer of Blass, and while he didn't break much

new ground, Vollbracht offered looks that will keep well-heeled women well-dressed for all their social events, in pique suits with grosgrain ribbon trim and flowing chiffon evening gowns that looked like tie-dye rainbows.

Lange, back at the tents in midtown Manhattan for the first time since Sept. 11, 2001—her show was going on as the World Trade Center towers were being attacked—showed that pregnancy doesn't mean a wardrobe of boring, shapeless muumuus.

She presented an upbeat collection with even more upbeat models, a rarity on the runway. The mothers-to-be wore body-conscious shapes, including baby-dolls, short shorts and even a tube dress, in bright green, powder blue and coral that embraced their very feminine figures instead of trying to hide them.

Fashion Week continues through Wednesday, with Zac Posen, Calvin Klein, Michael Kors, Ralph Lauren and Oscar de la Renta still to show their spring collections at the tents and other venues throughout the city.



A model wears a halter gown with a jeweled strap during the presentation of Carolina Herrera's Spring 2005 collection in New York, Thursday Sept. 9, 2004.

...as Wang provides Zen moment

NEW YORK (AP)—With a serene collection of sand-colored skirts and dresses, Vera Wang provided a Zen moment at New York Fashion Week while mixing casual and fancy looks—a popular trend for spring 2005.

Designers also are using shades of blue to add a little spark to a generally soft and neutral palette. The best illustration of this trend during Wang's runway show Friday at the Bryant Park tents: a strapless ballgown in a muted brown and rose modern-art print with a single line of bright ocean-blue tulle just below the bustline.

There also were flashes of metallics, leaf-pattern prints and rich brocades, all of which have proved popular in the opening days of the eight-day event. Fashion Week continues through Wednesday with Diane von Furstenberg, Oscar de la Renta, Michael Kors and Ralph Lauren among the dozens of designers remaining on the schedule.

Wang described her collection as "a deliberate study in contrasting shapes, textures, weights and proportions, all carefully juxtaposed with diverse yet distinct cultural references." The designer said she borrowed from traditional Japanese dress, including obi waistbands.

Holly Hunter, a friend and fan of Wang's for several years, was in the front row for her show.

Hunter wore a sleek black illusion gown by Wang when she won her best-actress Oscar for



A model wears the latest design during the fashion show for Vera Wang's Spring 2005 collection in New York, Friday Sept. 10, 2004.

"The Piano," and wore another of Wang's designs at this year's Academy Awards show. (She was a nominee for best supporting actress for "Thirteen.")

Wang has an awareness of a woman's body that translates beautifully into clothes, the actress said.

"I wouldn't describe Vera as a minimalist anymore, now her designs are more complex

but not overwhelming. She does amazing things with fabric alone," Hunter told The Associated Press.

Up-and-coming designer Alice Roi offered a collection that might appeal to the younger sister—or daughter—of Wang's typical customer. On Roi's runway there were similar horizontal-stripe sundresses that alternated opaque and sheer fabrics,

colored tulle and sheer blouses, though at Roi, those shirts were worn in a schoolgirl style under a fitted cashmere sweater and pleated skirt, while at Wang, loose blouses were paired with more formal skirts.

Too bad Roi didn't show a wedding dress—her boyfriend, Marc Beckman, proposed with help from models holding signs that read "Will you marry me?" as they strutted out for the show's finale. A visibly shocked Roi trembled as she embraced Beckman while family and friends rushed the runway.

Tommy Hilfiger's show on Thursday night had its own kind of scene as the paparazzi went crazy for a front row that included Jennifer Lopez, Janet Jackson, Sean "P. Diddy" Combs and Nick Lachey.

Supermodel Naomi Campbell opened Hilfiger's show in a long navy-and-white striped turtleneck dress. Other standout sailor-inspired looks included a nautical-flag silk skirt with a knot belt paired with a simple white button-front shirt, a white crocheted tunic top and matching pants, and a light blue and navy geometric-print silk halter dress. A shiny ivory and gold polka-dot Lurex capri pantsuit and ivory silk halter gown with a bright yellow sash would be perfect for yacht-club galas.

For men, a light blue window-pane blazer with white pants and a blue-and-white striped linen suit looked sporty and fresh.

Griffin discusses 'Jeopardy' streak

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif.

(AP)—Wherever he goes these days, Merv Griffin gets asked the same question: What is Ken Jennings really like? Griffin, who created "Jeopardy" in 1963 and wrote its brief, unforgettable theme song, has not met the mild-mannered software engineer from Salt Lake City who has become a celebrity as the game show's richest champion. But he'd like to.

"I think he's great," Griffin said. "He's humble—a smart, nice kid. And I think he would like to meet the creator of 'Jeopardy.'"

Griffin, who no longer owns "Jeopardy," credits his former wife, Julann Griffin, with the brainstorm of giving contestants the answers and requiring them to respond in the form of a question. NBC bought the idea and put the show on in prime time in 1964.

It didn't work right away. The first version of the show allowed all contestants to keep their winnings. That resulted in a dull, conservative wagering strategy.

"No one bet on 'Final Jeop-

ardy,'" Griffin said. "It almost killed the show."

So the rule was changed to allow only the winner to go home with cash.

Griffin said he had to battle the network brass over using the term "daily double." NBC's censors thought the phrase, which is also used at race tracks, would promote gambling.

Griffin also established the show's most famous rule, limiting a champion's run to five straight wins.

"We thought it would be boring," to allow a contestant to just keep winning, he said. That rule was changed at the beginning of last season, leading to the record winning streak by Jennings.

Asked if he still thought having a long-running champion was boring, Griffin said, "We'll see."

As of Thursday, the streak by Jennings stood at 42 shows, with winnings of more than \$1.3 million. But a report Wednesday on TV Week's Web site said the run ended with a show taped Tuesday that will air later this fall. A network spokesman refused to confirm or deny the report.

Officer details Zeta-Jones death threats

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Death threats phoned in to a hotel where Catherine Zeta-Jones was staying are linked to a woman accused of stalking and threatening the actress, a sheriff's detective testified Friday.

Detective Rodney Wagner said at a preliminary hearing that phone bills showed the calls were made by Dawnette Knight, 33, who is charged with one felony count of stalking and 24 felony counts of making criminal threats.

In two of the calls, made on May 18 and 19, the caller told a receptionist, "We know she is in the hotel. We are going to kill her," Wagner testified. The caller mentioned Michael Douglas, the actress' husband.

The detective said that in a third call, on May 21, the caller threatened to "blow Catherine's head off on Sunday in Monte Carlo."

Prosecutors are trying to show Knight threatened Zeta-Jones because she had a crush on Douglas.

Knight has pleaded not guilty and is in jail with bail set at \$1 million. She was arrested June 3 at her Beverly Hills home.

The judge in the case said Friday that Knight is being monitored because an anonymous caller has phoned the jail, saying she may try to kill herself. Knight's attorney, Richard Herman, said she was on suicide watch and was being kept in "medieval conditions" because of the calls.

He said Knight was not suicidal.

In a ruling Wednesday, Knight was found competent to stand trial. Her case had been halted July 30 pending a psychiatric evaluation after she overdosed on barbiturates.

Zeta-Jones



Paramedics give heart attack victims a treatment head start

By AVIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY: My letter concerns a letter in your column. It was written by a woman who had suffered a heart attack and was driven to the hospital by her husband.

I have been a paramedic for 18 years. It is important your readers understand that attempting to drive yourself or a loved one to a hospital is a bad idea. The 911 emergency number was put in place to help the sick and injured in a timely manner. Most citizens are not aware of the capabilities of their local emergency medical services agencies.

Today, paramedics bring the emergency room to the patient's home. We are capable of treating chest pain and, in many cases, of diagnosing a heart attack in the patient's living room. This information is relayed directly to the emergency room, where a doctor can assemble a cardiac catheterization team to promptly treat the heart attack when the patient arrives. (Not every hospital can provide cardiac catheterization, so we offer the patient a choice to go directly to a properly equipped facility.) In addition, we administer medications immediately.

The biggest delay in receiving prompt care is delay in calling 911, due to denial. "Time is muscle" is our saying. The more time you waste, the more heart muscle is damaged. The average person driving someone to a hospital cannot treat the person, and also tends to speed and drive in an unsafe manner. Please inform your readers, Abby.

PAUL TOSCINO, WATERVLIET, N.Y.

DEAR PAUL: Thank you for the valuable reminder that 911 is for life-threatening emergencies, and the expertise of the technicians can mean the difference between life and death.

DEAR ABBY: My 3-year-old daughter was recently invited to a birthday party for two of her classmates (twins). The party is scheduled for a weeknight from 6 to 8:30 p.m.—the time I have set for bath time, story time and lights out at 8 p.m.

Would I be rude and insensitive if I do not permit my daughter to attend? I don't want to offend the mother, but I don't want to rev my child up with sugary party snacks and activities right before a late bedtime.

CONFUSED IN TEXAS

DEAR CONFUSED: Rude and insensitive? No. Rigid? Yes. I'm willing to bet that the mother of the twins is a working woman, and the party would be earlier if it was possible. I see no harm in bending the rules or flexing your daughter's schedule once in a while. Of course, you will be going with your daughter to the party, so monitoring what she eats should be a cinch. Feeding your daughter a healthy meal before the party should ensure that she won't overdose on sugar. I say, let her go.

DEAR ABBY: When my 12-year-old daughter spends the night somewhere other than home, I don't sleep well. When she goes away to camp for a week, I hardly sleep at all. I am not up all night pacing the floor, worrying about her—I just can't sleep.

My sister tells me that this is not normal. Am I abnormal for losing sleep when my daughter is away?

SLEEPLESS NEAR SEATTLE

DEAR SLEEPLESS: No, you are not abnormal. You are a vigilant parent. Many parents cannot sleep unless they know their children are safe in their own beds and under their own roof.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

Capitol to release two John Lennon discs

Former Beatle John Lennon performs at New York's Madison Square Garden in this Aug. 30, 1972, file photo.

AP

NEW YORK (AP)—John Lennon will have two new compact discs out this fall. Capitol Records announced it was releasing a 17-song disc, "Acoustic," which collect some of the quieter post-Beatles work, including "Working Class Hero," "Watching the Wheels" and "Dear Yoko," by Lennon, who was murdered in 1980.

Seven of the tracks will be available for the first time. An acoustic version of the harrowing "Cold

Turkey," a live take on "Imagine" and a non-sweetened "Real Love" are part of the package.

Capitol is also repackaging Lennon's 1975 album, "Rock 'n' Roll," his homage to the music of his youth. They include four bonus tracks: "To Know Her is to Love Her"; "Angel Baby"; "Since My Baby Left Me"; and "Just Because."

Lennon's widow, Yoko Ono, supervised the projects, which will be issued Nov. 2.

Combs opens clothing store in NY

NEW YORK (AP)—Midtown Manhattan isn't that far from the Harlem neighborhood where Sean "P. Diddy" Combs grew up, but as Combs christened his new Sean John flagship store on Fifth Avenue, the rapper-designer said he felt like he was worlds away from where he started.

"This is beyond a dream come true," Combs said Thursday night as he watched celebrities Naomi Campbell, Vivica Fox, Nicky and Paris Hilton, and fellow designers Tommy Hilfiger and Zac Posen file into the store for a champagne toast during New York Fashion Week.

The look of the store was quite serene compared with

the scene outside, as scores of onlookers tried to peer over the many bodyguards watching over Combs and his friends.

Combs isn't holding a preview of his spring 2005 collection, saying he wants everything to be perfect when he returns to the catwalk—probably February 2005.

"I've been designing the show for two years and I'm waiting until everything is absolutely right," he said.

A fashion show isn't the only thing on Combs' radar: He said he plans to open up his next Sean John store in Beverly Hills, Calif., followed by Houston, Chicago, Detroit and Atlanta, and then London, Paris and Japan.



Combs

DeVito filming Italian comedy

GSTAAD, Switzerland (AP)—Danny DeVito is wearing an overcoat despite the 80-degree heat, but he looks cool thanks to the artificial snow covering the front of a Swiss Alps hotel.

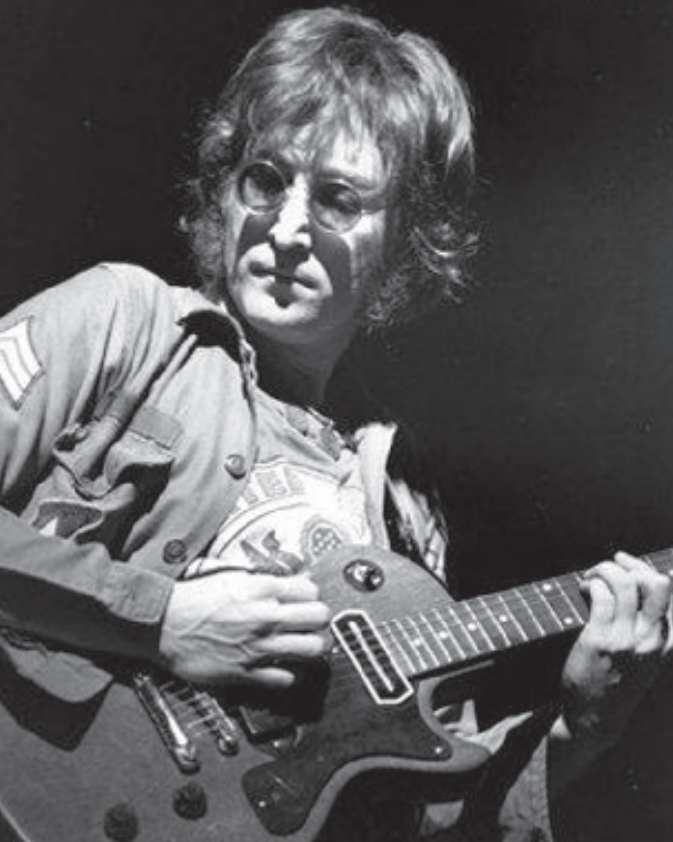
The wintry scene is for the filming of the Italian romantic comedy "Christmas in Love," in which DeVito's stars as a former boyfriend of Czech actress Alena Seredova.

The 59-year-old DeVito—act-

ing again after a recent move into producing and directing—told a Swiss newspaper that he's a big fan of the country's food, particularly "raclette" (cheese melted in front of an open fire) and is enjoying the mountain air.

"I can see the glacier when I look out of my window," he said.

Filming of the Gstaad scenes in "Christmas in Love" should finish in October—before the mountain resort sees real snow.



Katie Couric chooses outfits for 'Today'

NEW YORK (AP)—Katie Couric picks the outfits she wears each morning on NBC's "Today" show—and that means she wears a lot of suits and dresses.

"I like ease," Couric told The Associated Press Thursday. "I'm from the Grranimals school of fashion. I look for things that match." (Grranimals, popular in the '80s, came with color-coded animal hangers so kids could put together their own outfits without clashing.)

Couric was in the front row of Cynthia Steffe's run-

way show for spring 2005, part of New York Fashion Week taking place in the tents at Bryant Park in midtown Manhattan and other venues throughout the city.

"Cynthia's a friend and I've never been to one of her shows. It was time," said Couric, wearing a tweed skirt-suit from Steffe's fall collection.

The outfit had been delivered to the "Today" show co-host earlier in the day.

Couric said she had pieces from Steffe's 2004 spring line, but didn't want to show up in last season's styles.



Weir grabs one-shot lead at Canadian Open

By **DOUG FERGUSON**
AP GOLF WRITER

OAKVILLE, Ontario (AP)—The Canadian Open got the perfect gift for its 100th anniversary—Mike Weir in the lead with a flawless round of 5-under 66, and a showdown with the No. 1 player in golf looming on the weekend.

Weir made Glen Abbey sound like Sunday at Augusta National, sending the gallery into a frenzy with a 3-iron into 3 feet for eagle to take the lead and sticking a 5-iron close for birdie on his final hole to finish one shot ahead of Vijay Singh among those who finished 36 holes Friday.

"Today could not have gone much better," Weir said.

He was at 9-under 133 and in the lead at his national open for the first time.

In his first tournament since replacing Tiger Woods at No. 1 in the world, Singh certainly looked the part. After finishing his first nine holes in 40, he broke the Canadian Open record with a 28 on the front nine—7 under during one seven-hole stretch—then added a 66 in the second round.

"I just started hitting it close, and all of a sudden I noticed it was 28," Singh said. "I was just trying to get it back as close to par as possible."

Craig Barlow, Weir's best friend from their mini-tour days, had a 69 and was at 6-under 142.

Because of a 5-hour rain delay at the start of the tournament, 73 players had to return Saturday morning to finish the second round. Pat Perez and Jesper Parnevik were at 6 under through 13 holes.

Phil Mickelson made two eagles to get to 1 over through nine holes, while David Duval overcame another shot in the water for double bogey and was 1 under through 12, and headed toward his second straight paycheck.

The crowd left the Abbey buzzing in anticipation of a duel between Canada's best and the world No. 1.

"He's playing the best of anyone. He's No. 1 in the world for a reason," Weir said. "Hopefully, I'll be able to find the magic tomorrow."

The gallery will try to do its part.

Weir missed the sixth fairway well to the right, and as he walked over to his ball, he was pleasantly surprised to see it sitting up in the trampled rough.

"Nice lie," he said, sizing up the shot.

"You're welcome," cracked a fan. No one touched the ball, but it was symbolic of the support Weir gets in Canada, even before he became its first Masters champion last year.

The crowd stood eight rows deep behind some of the greens,



Mike Weir from Canada, chips up onto the green during second round of play at the Canadian Open golf tournament in Oakville, Ontario, on Friday Sept. 10, 2004. Weir finished the round at 9-under par.

some standing on coolers in the back, all of them giving him rousing ovations just for walking onto the green.

The energy in the gallery is similar to what Colin Montgomerie gets at Royal Troon—Weir played with Monty the final two

rounds at the British Open to July—no different than when Woods is in town.

"Pretty much the same," said Joel Edwards, who played the first two rounds with Woods at Royal Montreal in 2001, and spent the last two days with Weir

at the Abbey. "They're rooting hard for him, and they should. He's a great champion, he's at home, and he's playing good."

Weir finished up his morning round at 68, then birdied his first hole—No. 10—when his drive bounced off a tree—a Maple Leaf, no doubt—and into the adjacent fairway, leaving him a 6-iron he hit to 10 feet.

A perfect drive and an 8-iron into 12 feet for birdie on the 485-yard 16th gave him a share of the lead, but the loudest cheer came on the par-5 fifth. Weir was between a 3-iron and a 5-wood, decided to chase a 3-iron into the throat of the green and it hopped over a ridge and stopped 3 feet away.

The Canadian Open, the third-oldest national championship in golf, has never been kind to Weir. He missed the cut the first nine times he played, and has never been a fan of the Abbey.

But he practiced last week with coach Mike Wilson in Utah, drawing up a game plan for his fifth major. Plus, he's a little better than the last time he was at Glen Abbey in 2000.

"I've won six times since the last time I was here, including some big tournaments," Weir said, referring to the Masters,

Tour Championship and a World Golf Championship. "That experience is a big factor."

He'll need all of that to cope with Singh.

The 41-year-old Fijian returned Friday morning and hit a 6-iron into the water on the par-5 18th, sending him to 4 over for the tournament. All that did was upset him, and he answered in style.

Singh's shotmaking was stunning. He had five birdies inside 6 feet, and rolled in a 40-foot eagle putt on No. 5. He broke the nine-hole tournament record of 29 previously held by Mike McCullough in 1984 and Andy Bean in 1983, both at Glen Abbey.

And despite running into some trouble in the middle of his round, Singh got his game on track quickly with three straight birdies starting on No. 12. He finished with a bunker shot to 5 feet for birdie on the final hole.

That puts him in a familiar spot—near the lead, and with the crowd squarely against him.

Singh faced that at the Buick Open against John Daly and last week at the Deutsche Bank Championship against Woods. He won both times.

"If I do, it would be great," Singh said of a possible third-round pairing with Weir. "I like Mike, and I'm a friend of his. I know the crowds are going to be biased, but it won't be any worse than last week. I'm used to it."

Drexler relishes Basketball Hall induction

By **TRUDY TYNAN**
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (AP)—On the playgrounds of Houston, a young Clyde Drexler used to pretend he was Julius Erving, flying over defenders with a championship on the line.

On Friday night, Drexler's idol, "Dr. J," presented him for induction into the Basketball Hall of Fame.

"I'm dreaming tonight," Drexler said. "My childhood idol is presenting me for induction into the Hall of Fame. It doesn't get any better than this. I am dreaming. I don't want to be awakened."

Drexler, who earned the nickname "Clyde the Glide" for his own swooping moves, was inducted Friday along with coach Bill Sharman, already in the Hall of Fame as a player; the late Maurice Stokes, the 1956 NBA rookie of the year; Lynette Woodard, an Olympic gold medalist and the first woman to play for the Harlem Globetrotters; Jerry Colangelo, chairman of the Phoenix Suns; and Drazen Dalipagic, an international star.

"He seemed to fly. I wanted to be like him," Drexler said of Erving.



The 2004 inductees into the Basketball Hall of Fame pose at a news conference at the Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Mass., Friday, Sept. 10, 2004. From left are: Phoenix Suns owner Jerry Colangelo; Drazen Dalipagic; former Portland TrailBlazer and Houston Rockets player Clyde Drexler; former player and coach Bill Sharman; Jack Twyman, who accepted the award for the late Maurice Stokes; and the first woman ever to play for the Harlem Globetrotters, Lynette Woodard.

Stokes had his career cut short when he was paralyzed in his third season when he fell during a game. Teammate Jack Twyman, a Hall of Famer who at 24 became Stokes' legal guardian and organized an annual benefit game to help defray Stokes' enormous medical expenses, accepted on Stokes' behalf. Stokes died in 1970 at 36.

Woodard, also selected in her

first year of eligibility, averaged 26 points at the University of Kansas, won an Olympic gold medal with the United States in 1984, and played in the WNBA with Cleveland and Detroit.

Sharman, inducted as a player in 1976, was presented by Bob Cousy, his backcourt partner with the Boston Celtics. As a coach he won titles in three professional leagues—the ABL with

the Cleveland Pipers in 1962, the ABA with the Utah Stars in 1971, and the NBA with the Los Angeles Lakers in 1972—to go with his four NBA titles as a player with the Celtics.

Colangelo is a four-time NBA executive of the year and was instrumental in creating the WNBA.

Dalipagic was a three-time European player of the year.

Miami beats Florida St. 16-10 in OT

By **MARK LONG**
AP SPORTS WRITER

MIAMI (AP)—New season, new conference, same result. Frank Gore's 18-yard touchdown run in overtime gave No. 5 Miami a 16-10 victory over No. 4 Florida State on Friday night.

The Hurricanes, playing their first game as a member of the Atlantic Coast Conference, extended their winning streak over the Seminoles to six games.

They won this one with defense.

The Seminoles' offense did little during regulation and even less in overtime. After a holding call put Florida State in a first-and-20, Antrel Rolle sniffed out a screen pass for an 8-yard loss. Chris Rix connected with Craphonso Thorpe for a 15-yard gain on second down, but Rix fumbled on third down and Miami's Thomas Carroll recovered.

Gore scored on Miami's second play.

The game was originally scheduled to be played last Monday but was postponed four days because of Hurri-

cane Frances. A grandson and a former son-in-law of Florida State coach Bobby Bowden were killed last Sunday when their car was hit by a utility truck that was helping to restore power outages caused by the hurricane.

Miami (1-0) scored 16 straight points in the fourth quarter after Florida State (0-1) took a 10-0 lead by capitalizing on two turnovers.

The Hurricanes also got some help from a missed field goal—something that has defined this rivalry.

Florida State's Xavier Beitia had a 34-yarder blocked with 3:58 to play. The kick would have sealed a victory for the Seminoles. Instead, it gave Miami the ball back with a chance to tie the game.

Brock Berlin drove the Hurricanes 80 yards in five plays and 52 seconds. He connected with Sinorice Moss for a 30-yard touchdown with 30 seconds to play, and the extra point tied the game at 10.

After Miami tied the game, the Seminoles took a few shots deep, but the game went to overtime.



Russian women win both semis at US Open

By HOWARD FENDRICH
AP TENNIS WRITER



NEW YORK
(AP)—

Fighting back from a disastrous start and winning the 49-stroke point of the tournament along the way, Jennifer Capriati served for the match against Elena Dementieva in their U.S. Open semi-final Friday.

Right where Capriati wanted to be, right? Nyet!

Up big but battling a leg injury, Lindsay Davenport just had to hold off first-time major semifinalist Svetlana Kuznetsova for a handful of games. Surely, Davenport could rely on her experience and powerful strokes to extend a 22-match winning streak and keep alive her bid for the No. 1 ranking, right? Nyet!

Capriati came oh-so-close yet again at Flushing Meadows before falling to 0-4 in Open semifinals, succumbing to the soft-as-cotton-candy serves and hard-nosed grit of an ailing Dementieva 6-0, 2-6, 7-6 (5).

Davenport, limping on a bad hip, devolved from near perfection in the first set and a 3-0 lead in the third to a 1-6, 6-2, 6-4 loss to Kuznetsova.

By beating the crowd favorites in topsy-turvy matches, No. 6 Dementieva and No. 9 Kuznetsova became the first Russian women to reach a U.S. Open final. As of four months ago, no Russian woman ever won a Grand Slam title; now

the country will have its third straight major champion.

Anastasia Myskina beat Dementieva for the French Open title, and Maria Sharapova won Wimbledon.

"I guess they're just pretty hungry to play, and there's just so many of them," Capriati said. "And there's also a few good ones - I mean, all of them are good."

It's the first time since 1988 that no Americans will be in the Open's singles finals. In the men's semifinals Saturday afternoon, top-ranked Roger Federer of Switzerland plays No. 5 Tim Henman of Britain, and 2001 U.S. Open champion Lleyton Hewitt of Australia faces No. 28 Joachim Johansson of Sweden, who upset defending champ Andy Roddick in the quarterfinals.

Federer is bidding to become the first man since Mats Wilander in 1988 to win three majors in a year. There's no such dominant figure in women's tennis these days—indeed indeed, Amelie Mauresmo will be No. 1 in the rankings without having won a Slam in her career—but there is a dominant nation.

"It really surprises me as much as it surprises you," said Dementieva, so wiped out after outlasting Capriati that she pulled out of the doubles semifinals. "There are a lot of us, and we play very good. But to see another all-Russian final in a Grand Slam, that's amazing. It's unbelievable to me."

And probably to the executives at CBS, which is paying millions for the right to air the

weekend's matches, including the women's prime-time final Saturday.

For the first time in the Open era, which dates to 1968, none of the four top-seeded women made the semis in New York. That seemed to clear the way for Davenport and Capriati—both 28, former No. 1s, and owners of three Slams each—to get to the title match.

After all, Kuznetsova, 19, was best known until now as Martina Navratilova's former doubles partner. Dementieva, 22, was in just her third major semifinal, injured her left groin during the week, needed IV fluids after beating Mauresmo in the fourth round, and her famously slow serves (around 60 mph) solicit laughter from spectators.

But, as Dementieva's coach, Olga Morazova, put it: "At the end, Elena was tougher."

Morazova lost to Chris Evert in the 1974 French Open and Wimbledon finals, the last time a Russian woman played for a Slam title until the recent run.

Capriati is building a forgettable body of work in U.S. Open semifinals. She's now served for a spot in the final a total of five times dating to 1991, always getting broken. Last year, she served for it twice against Justine Henin-Hardenne, and 10 times was two points from victory. This time, she finally converted her eighth break chance over two games to get to 6-5 in the third set. But Capriati double-faulted to send it to a tiebreaker, which Dementieva



Elena Dementieva, of Russia, react during her match Jennifer Capriati, of the United States, at the U.S. Open tennis tournament in New York Friday Sept. 10, 2004.

ended with a backhand winner down the line.

At least Capriati made it competitive. She was absolutely awful in the 17-minute first set, losing 24 of 29 points and hitting zero winners. Early in the second set, she let her frustration show, motioning at her family in the guest box, hammering a ball against the wall, asking the chair umpire to turn off her mike so it wouldn't pick up the loud sound of the wind.

When someone barked out advice from the stands, Capriati snapped: "Shut up! I know what to do!"

Apparently, she did, and the third set had its great moments and its ridiculous ones - including a combined eight breaks of serve in 12 games. But on the set's third point, the players engaged in a 49-stroke exchange that featured fantastic defense by Capriati. When it finally ended with Dementieva missing an easy overhead, Capriati dropped her racket and raised her arms, while the Russian bent over, hands on knees. While both stopped to catch their breath, the fans responded with a standing ovation.

Two games later, Capriati—whose victory over Serena Williams in the quarterfinals was marked by officiating errors—got flustered when chair umpire Leann White mistakenly announced the score at 30-all. White corrected herself, saying Dementieva led 40-15, and Capriati shouted, "You can't change it now!" White responded, and Capriati fired off an expletive, drawing a warning.

Orioles snap Yankees' five-game win streak, Red Sox stomp Mariners



BALTIMORE
(AP)—

Brian Roberts and Larry Bigbie had two hits apiece in an eight-run third inning, and the Baltimore Orioles ended the New York Yankees' five-game winning streak with a 14-8 victory Friday night.

Miguel Tejada and Melvin Mora homered, and B.J. Surhoff had a season-high four RBIs for the Orioles, who have won eight of 11.

Baltimore trailed 3-2 before sending 13 batters to the plate in the third against Javier Vazquez (13-9) and two relievers. Bigbie had two singles and scored twice, and Roberts had a bunt single and a two-run double.

Twins 4, Tigers 1

In Detroit, Carlos Silva won for the first time in more than a month, and Jacque Jones drove in two runs to lead Minnesota.

Silva (11-8) allowed one run and nine hits in six innings, struck out six and walked none for his first victory in seven starts since Aug. 3 against Anaheim.

Rangers 10, Blue Jays 3

In Texas, Ryan Drese pitched seven strong innings, and Kevin Mench homered twice for Texas.

Drese (12-8) allowed one run and six hits, struck out seven and walked one. He lost a bid for his first shutout when he allowed Carlos Delgado's solo homer in the seventh, but picked up his eighth win in 11 decisions.

Royals 8, Devil Rays 5

In Kansas City, Dee Brown and Desi Relaford doubled during a six-run seventh inning, and Kansas City rallied from a five-run deficit to send Tampa Bay to its 12th straight loss.

The Devil Rays, on the second-longest skid in team history, led 5-0 in the sixth and Mark Hendrickson was working on a one-hitter before Kansas City closed on Ken Harvey's RBI groundout and Joe Randa's run-scoring single.

Red Sox 13, Mariners 2

In Seattle, Curt Schilling became the first 19-game winner in the major leagues this year and Manny Ramirez homered twice, including his second grand slam of the season, to lead Boston over Seattle.

David Ortiz hit a go-ahead homer in a five-run sixth inning, and Johnny Damon had three RBIs for the Red Sox, who cut the New York Yankees' AL East lead to 2 1/2 games.

Angels 7, White Sox 5

In Anaheim, Garret Anderson hit a tiebreaking two-run single in the eighth inning and Vladimir Guerrero had a three-run homer, leading Anaheim over the Chicago White Sox.

The Angels, who entered two games behind Oakland in the AL West, rallied to win for the 38th time this season. They remained five games behind Boston in the wild-card race.

Marlins 7, Cubs 0, first game

Cubs 11, Marlins 2, second game

In Chicago, Carl Pavano got his 17th victory with a seven-hit shutout to help the Florida Marlins beat the Cubs in the first game of a doubleheader—their first meeting since Game 7 of last year's NLCS.

In the second game, Moises Alou and Aramis Ramirez hit back-to-back homers, and the struggling Cubs routed the Marlins to gain the split. Chicago responded with a season-high 18 hits in the second game.

Indians 4, A's 3

In Oakland, Casey Blake's 12th-inning homer sent the A's to their fifth straight loss. Oakland's lead

in the AL West dwindled to one game over the Angels despite plenty of chances to snap the skid, which has threatening the A's run for a fifth straight postseason trip.

Coco Crisp tied it with a home run in the eighth inning off Mark Mulder. The Indians got 6 2-3 scoreless innings from seven relievers, and Ryan Ludwick also homered in Cleveland's sixth victory over Oakland in seven meetings this season.

Pirates 6, Astros 1

In Pittsburgh, rookie John Van Benschoten allowed five hits in eight innings for his first major league win.

Houston, which had won 12 straight before losing the opener of Thursday's doubleheader, has lost two of three for the first time since Aug. 20-22 against the Chicago Cubs. The Astros began the day tied with San Francisco for the wild-card lead, a half-game ahead of the Cubs.

Reds 6, Brewers 4

In Cincinnati, wily Mo Pena homered for the second straight night, and Cincinnati snapped a four-game losing streak.

Adam Dunn stole home on a double steal in the fifth inning for the Reds.

Braves 4, Expos 3

In Atlanta, Johnny Estrada hit a three-run homer and the Braves shook off the arrest of Rafael Furcal to snap a three-game losing streak.

Furcal spent much of the day in jail after being arrested on drunken driving charges. He finally arrived at Turner Field about 1 1/2 hours before the game but didn't play.

Phillies 9, Mets 5

In New York, Jason Michaels went 4-for-5 with a homer and four RBIs to lead Philadelphia past New York.

Placido Polanco also homered and Jimmy Rollins hit a two-run single for the Phillies, who got another dominant effort from their bullpen to win their fourth straight and seventh in eight games. David Bell had three hits, including two doubles, and reached base four times.

Padres 10, Rockies 4

In Denver, Khalil Greene and Ryan Klesko hit three-run homers for San Diego, which entered the night 2 1/2 back in the wild-card race,

Brian Lawrence (14-12) won despite allowing four runs, eight hits and three walks in six innings.

Dodgers 7, Cardinals 6

In Los Angeles, Steve Finley broke a 5-all tie in the seventh with a two-run homer off Kiki Calero (1-1), and Adrian Beltre hit his major league-leading 45th homer, a three-run drive.

Giovanni Carrara (5-2) pitched one inning for the victory in the matchup of division leaders, and Eric Gagne pitched 1 2-3 innings for his 39th save in 41 chances, allowing a solo homer to Reggie Sanders.

Diamondbacks 2, Giants 1

In Phoenix, Randy Johnson (13-13), backed by Doug DeVore's two-run homer in the seventh off Jim Brower (7-7), allowed one run and four hits in seven innings and struck out eight to earn his 100th victory with Arizona.

Barry Bonds, who remained two shy of 700 home runs, nailed by a 95 mph fastball from Johnson in the fourth, then singled and scored on Yorvit Torrealba's seventh-inning single for a 1-0 lead. Bonds also tied the season record for walks he set two years ago at 198 when Mike Koplove put him on intentionally leading off the eighth.



Bowling all the way

Sports headlines were dominated by news of facilities being rehabilitated and leagues planning to get back into action.

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Weir grabs one-shot lead at Canadian Open

The Canadian Open got the perfect gift for its 100th anniversary—Mike Weir in the lead with a flawless round of 5-under 66, and a showdown with the No. 1 player in golf looming on the weekend.

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28 SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2004

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

SAIWAI recognizes members, sponsors



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Participants in the 3rd Annual Foundation and Family Day Walk pose for a photo after the event.

By MARK RABAGO
REPORTER

It's always better to give than to receive.

The Saipan Walking Association Inc. did just that last Aug. 21 when it recognized members and sponsors on the occasion of its 3rd Annual Foundation and Family Day Walk held along the Saipan Beach Pathway.

Leading the honorees during the awards ceremony, which was held after the walk at the Chamolinian Village, were outstanding members Jun S. Lapeceros, Pedro Vilaga, Tomas Bondoc, Arturo Ancheta, Elsa Rasa, and Antonio Soriano. Each of them received a certificate of recognition, and a pin and a patch from the International Federation of Popular Sports, SAIWAI's mother organization.

All six members, save for Soriano, work for Duty Free Saipan. Soriano was recognized because of his contributions as a member of MDX Amateur Radio Club.

In addition, Team DFS also got an award for completing more than 150 kilometers. SAIWAI secretary Mario Espeleta said the team is also due to receive an award for completing 300 kilometers.

SAIWAI also acknowledged families that have become fixtures of the local walking body's activities. Outstanding families that were recognized were the Race and Kimura families. Incidentally, Gresil, Paila and Jun Race and Kensuke and Shin Kimura are all members of SAIWAI's Youth Walkers Club.

Sponsors also got to share the stage during the awards ceremony. SAIWAI supporters that were given certificates of appreciation were Mobil Oil Marianas,



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Outstanding members Jun S. Lapeceros, Pedro Vilaga, Tomas Bondoc, Arturo Ancheta, Elsa Rasa, and Antonio Soriano show off their certificates.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

First time SAIWAI walkers enjoy the easy morning stroll along the Saipan Beach Pathway.

DFS Galleria, Verizon, Coca-Cola, Pacific Islands Club, Mandara Spa, Herman's Modern Bakery, Tan Holdings Corp., Bank of Hawaii, MDX Amateur Radio Club, Midway Motors, Pacifica Insurance, Joanna's Transportation Service, and Island Apparel Inc.

"There are more than 100 members already, and we expect to grow more with each passing event. Anybody is welcome to join us. Hats off to our generous sponsors. SAIWAI does not get funding and relies solely on the donations and solicitations from private companies. The proceeds of the events go back to the community, like the 'Walk for Life' cancer event last March," said

SAIWAI president Jesus Guerrero.

A total of 43 walkers participated in the 2004 Foundation and Family Day Walk. Espeleta said SAIWAI was expecting a bigger turnout but the threat of rain reduced the final number.

"We were very lucky supertyphoon Chaba failed to stop us. If not for the emerging threat we could have gotten more participants. In fact nine of my contacts failed to show up," he said.

Like all SAIWAI activities, the International Federation of Popular Sports or IVV sanctioned the 3rd Annual Foundation and Family Day Walk.

IVV members received credit for joining the event. The IVV has member-walking clubs in the U.S.,

Canada, Brazil, Japan, South Korea, Turkey, Nepal, Australia, New Zealand, the CNMI and 29 other European countries.

Other walking events SAIWAI has slated for the rest of the year are the Heart of the Marianas Fitness Fair Walk on Sept. 25, the 4th Annual Thanksgiving Day Walk on Nov. 20, and Walk in the Marianas on Dec. 18.

SAIWAI was incorporated as a non-profit corporation on July 27, 2001 and was established to promote public health through non-competitive walking.

For more information n SAIWAI events, contact Bea at 322-2725 or Mario at 322-8876.